



Ninety – Sixth Legislature – Second Session – 2000
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 717

Chairperson: Senator DiAnna R. Schimek
Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
Date of Hearing: February 10, 2000

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

The re-draft of LB 717 seeks \$150,000 in General Funds annually for the next three years in order to provide seed money to the Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC's).

Making seed money available to the LEPC's will give them the opportunity to invest their time developing, revising and updating their emergency plans plus educating the public and businesses about the statutory requirements under NEPCRA and the important role emergency planning plays in mitigating potential damages and saving lives. Once the local communities are brought into the process, it will facilitate local efforts to seek donations from area businesses and to identify other funding sources such as a fee based system. This would limit LEPCs' dependence on state and federal funding sources.

The State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) will oversee the distribution of the funding and promulgate rules and regulations clarifying the criteria for distributing funds to the active LEPC's..

Principal Introducer:

Senator Donald G. Preister